

What It Is
Mark Knopfler

Intro]

Em C D Em C D
Em C D Em C D
Em C D Em C D
Em C D
Em

[Verse 1]

C D Em
The drinking dens are spilling out
G
There's staggering in the square
C
There's lads and lasses falling about
G D
And a crackling in the air
Em
Down around the dungeon doors
G
The shelters and the queues
C
Everybody's looking for
G D
Somebody's arms to fall into

[Chorus]

Em
That's what it is
C D Em
It's what it is now

[Verse 2]

C D Em
There's frost on the graves and the monuments
G
But the taverns are warm in town

C

People curse the government

G

D

And shovel hot food down

Em

Lights are out in the city hall

G

The castle and the keep

C

The moon shines down upon it all

G

D

The legless and asleep

C

And it's cold on the tollgate

G

With the wagons creeping through

C

Cold on the tollgate

G

D

God knows what I could do with you

Em

That's what it is

[Chorus]

C D

Em

C D

It's what it is now

[Verse 3]

Em

The garrison sleeps in the citadel

G

With the ghosts and the ancient stones

C

High on the parapet

G

D

A Scottish piper stands alone

Em

And high on the wind

G

The highland drums begin to roll

C

And something from the past just comes

G

D

And stares into my soul

C

And it's cold on the tollgate

G

With a Caledonian blues

C

Cold on the tollgate

G

D

God knows what I could do with you

[Chorus]

Em

That's what it is

C D

Em

It's what it is now

C D

Em

What it is

C D

Em

C D

It's what it is now

[Solo 1]

Em G C G D

Em G C G D

Em C D Em C D

Em C D Em

[Verse 4]

C D

Em

There's a chink of light, there's a burning wick

G

There's a lantern in the tower

C

Wee Willie Winkie with a candlestick

G

D

Still writing songs in the wee wee hours

Em

On Charlotte Street I take

G

A walking stick for my hotel

C

The ghost of Dirty Dick

G

D

Is still in search of Little Nell

[Chorus]

Em
That's what it is
C D **Em** **C D**
It's what it is now
Em
It's what it is
C D **Em** **C D**
What it is now!|

[Solo 2]

Em C D Em C D
Em C D Em C D
Em C D Em C D
Em C D Em C D
Em C D Em C D
Em C D Em C D

[Outro]

Em C D Em C D
Em C D Em C D
Em C D Em C D
Em C D Em C D
Em C D Em C D
Em C D Em C D